

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05602 250642Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DHA-02 ACDA-07 OES-06
NEA-10 CU-02 /099 W
-----251010Z 096115 /17

R 241555Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4384
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, US, GE, UR
SUBJECT: ND STRESSES BREZHNEV'S POSITIVE
STANCE ON US/SOVIET RELATIONS

1. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND CARRIES AN EDITORIAL MARCH
24 ON BREZHNEV'S TRADE UNION SPEECH WHICH ACCENTUATES
THE POSITIVE IN SOVIET/US RELATIONS AND DOES NOT
MENTION BREZHNEV'S ATTACK ON THE US ADMINISTRATION
OVER HUMAN RIGHT'S. THE PIECE STRESSES THE
SOVIET DESIRE TO GET ON WITH NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
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US ON A VARIEYT OF SUBJECT'S, I.E. SALT, DISARMAMENT,
ATOMIC TESTS, AND THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL
WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT AND USE, ALL OF WHICH ARE
INCLUDED UNDER THE RUBRIC OF ESTABLISHING " GOOD
NEIGHBOR" RELATIONS WITH THE US AND THE " CAPITALISTIC
STATES OF EUROPE." BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS ON THE
MIDDLE EAST AND THE WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL ON NON-

FIRST USE OF ATOMIC WEAPONS, ARE MENTIONED BUT NOT EXPANDED UPON. THE GENERAL TONE OF THE PIECE IS PRAISING OF BREZHNEV AS THE INITIATOR OF POLICIES WITH A WORLD-WIDE APPEAL.

2. COMMENT: ND'S FAILURE TO MENTION BREZHNEV'S ATTACK ON THE US OVER HUMAN RIGHTS IS STRIKING WHEN COMPARED TO THE PUBLICITY THIS PART OF THE SPEECH RECEIVED IN THE WESTERN PRESS. IT REFLECTS A GDR DESIRE TO AVOID, IN ITS OWN PRESS, DIRECT CRITICISM OF THE US ON THIS SUBJECT AS WELL AS ITS OWN POSITION, EXPRESSED BY GDR OFFICIALS IN RECENT WEEKS, THAT THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE NOT BECOME A VITUPERATIVE SESSION. IN THE GDR'S VIEW AS WELL, THE EMPHASIS UPON US/ SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS ON SALT, DISARMAMENT, ETC. (WITHOUT MENTIONING HUMAN RIGHTS) SUPPORTS THE LINE THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO DETENTE AND SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED OR OVERTURNED BY US/SOVIET CONTROVERSY OVER HUMAN RIGHTS.

IN THE SAME ND EDITION, THE SCHMIDT GOVERNMENT IS PORTRAYED IN VERY FAVORABLE TERMS IN THE MARCH 23 BUNDESTAG DEBATE WHICH INCLUDED CSCE AND THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE. SCHMIDT IS QUOTED AS DEFENDING THE FRG'S RECORD SINCE HELSINKI IN FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND VISITOR EXCHANGES WITH THE GDR, AND AS HAVING SAID THAT THE FRG CANNOT AFFORD TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR REVERSE IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RELAXATION OF TENSIONS SINCE HELSINKI. THE GDR'S BETE NOIRE IN FRG POLITICS, THE CDU/CSU, IS QUOTED AS TAKING THE POSITION IN THE DEBATE THAT BELGRADE SHOULD NOT BE A "FESTIVAL OF HARMONY", IN THIS CONNECTION, THE OPPOSITION PARTY PRESENTED A "WHOLE CATALOG" OF INFRINGEMENTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AGAINST SOCIALIST STATES, INCLUDING THE GDR. POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTE, DISARMAMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS, SPEECHES, NEGOTIATIONS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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